

Egyptian Regional Human Rights Authority
Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2012

The regular meeting of the Human Rights Authority was held at The Depot, 124 East Davie Street, Anna, IL. Chair, Pam O'Connor, called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. and read the confidentiality statement. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Pam O'Connor, Al Farmer, Sharon Mumford, Jim Livesay, Sue Barfield and Mary McMahan

Members Absent: Phyllis Brown, Clarence Russell and Kathy Rambeau

Staff Present: Teresa Parks

Guests: Brent Steward, the Southern Illinoisan newspaper

Teresa Parks addressed inquiries from guest, Brent Steward, as to the role of the Authority. Mr. Steward then left the meeting.

Mary McMahan made a motion to approve the March 27, 2012 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

Teresa Parks shared correspondence from our agency Chief Fiscal Officer regarding direct deposit mileage payments.

Ratifications - New Complaints

The following cases were approved for case acceptance through emergency case opening procedures with the approval of Chair, Pam O'Conner and two HRA Members, Mary McMahan and Al Farmer on April 25, 2012:

12-110-9024 - Chester Mental Health Center - A recipient's treatment plans, which are reportedly sent to the judge as part of his court/hearing process, do not accurately reflect his current status. A recipient is not in the least restrictive placement. Sue Barfield made a motion to ratify emergency case acceptance; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9025 - Chester Mental Health Center - Staff to patient interactions are inappropriate with staff throwing snacks at recipients, accusing recipients of taking things and propping feet on tables. A recipient was given medication without consent and without a physician's order. And a recipient is required to perform work for the facility including emptying out garbage cans and doing laundry. Sharon Mumford made a motion to ratify emergency case acceptance; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9026 - Chester Mental Health Center - A recipient was subjected to inadequate, inappropriate and inhumane treatment and without regard to individualized choice when forced to shower on a specific day and in the presence of another recipient. A recipient was denied access to his personal items, including items sent to him by his family after he argued with an STA and items he purchased from the commissary were replaced by state-issued items. Mary

McMahan made a motion to ratify emergency case acceptance; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9027 - Chester Mental Health Center - A recipient was not allowed to practice his religious beliefs. Sue Barfield made a motion to ratify emergency case acceptance; the motion was seconded and carried.

New Complaints

12-110-9003 - Community Hospital - A restrictive posey net restraint is being utilized to restrain patients with behavioral health needs in the hospital emergency room. Sue Barfield made a motion to accept the case for investigation; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9018 - State Operated Mental Health Facility - a recipient has been assaulted by staff and peers. Peer assaults are reportedly ignored by staff. The complaint also stated that the recipient feels unsafe and fearful. Finally, the complaint states that a recipient is over medicated. A report was filed with OIG. HRA information and a release were sent to the recipient with no response to date. An attempt can be made to meet with the individual at an upcoming site visit. Sue Barfield made a motion to table case acceptance pending the receipt of a release; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9023 - State Operated Mental Health Facility - the complaint alleges lack of cleanliness and limited housekeeping services on recipient units. An informal review of the facility was conducted during a recent visit for another case investigation; housekeeping appeared adequate although a shortage of housekeeping staff had been previously reported. Al Farmer made a motion not to accept the complaint for investigation; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9028 - State Operated Mental Health Facility - the complaint alleges that recipients are not being served in the least restrictive environment and referrals to less restrictive state facilities are denied. The complaint also states that language barriers are not adequately addressed. One release has been secured for an individual seeking less restrictive placement. A release regarding the language barrier is being pursued. Mary McMahan made a motion to accept the complaint for investigation; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9029 - State Operated Mental Health Facility - the complaint alleges that a recipient is not being served in the least restrictive environment. The recipient asked that a new case be put on hold pending the outcome of his next treatment plan review. Sue Barfield made a motion to table case acceptance; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9030 - State Operated Developmental Disabilities Facility - the complaint alleges that the facility, which is slated for closure, has an inadequate evaluation process. This facility is actually in another region. Sharon Mumford made a motion to refer the case to the appropriate region.

12-110-9031 - Community mental health provider - the complaint alleges that a counselor breached a recipient's confidentiality and when a complaint was filed, the recipient received

inadequate results and possible retaliation against a family member also receiving services. Mary McMahan made a motion to accept the complaint for investigation; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9032 - Nursing Home - the complaint alleges that a family member and the agent in a resident's power of attorney is denied record access, notification of incidents involving the resident and participation in care plan meetings. A release is being pursued. Jim Livesay made a motion to table case acceptance; the motion was seconded and carried.

Election of Officers

Mary McMahan made a motion to retain the current officers for the coming fiscal year: Pam O'Connor as Chair, Clarence Russell as Vice-Chair and Kathy Rambeau as Secretary; the motion was seconded and carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Sue Barfield made a motion to enter closed session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss confidential information regarding case progress, draft reports and case closures. The motion was seconded and carried. The HRA returned to open session at 7:35 p.m. having taken no action in closed session. The following summary of items was discussed: Case progress was reviewed for Cases # 12-110-9017, 12-110-9019, 12-110-9020, 12-110-9024, 12-110-9025, 12-110-9026 and 12-110-9027. Draft reports were reviewed for Cases #12-110-9009, 12-110-9010, 12-110-9011, 12-110-9012, 12-110-9014 and 12-110-9022; Case closures were considered for Cases #11-110-9047, 12-110-9005, 12-110-9006, 12-110-9007, 12-110-9008 and 12-110-9013.

Case Progress Reports

12-110-9017 - Chester Mental Health Center - The HRA has received some information but more information is needed.

12-110-9019 - Chester Mental Health Center - The HRA is securing record and policy information.

12-110-9020 - Chester Mental Health Center - The HRA is securing additional information.

12-110-9024 - Chester Mental Health Center - Records are being sought.

12-110-9025 - Chester Mental Health Center - Records are being requested.

12-110-9026 - Chester Mental Health Center - Records are being requested.

12-110-9027 - Chester Mental Health Center - Records are being requested.

Reports of Findings

12-110-9009 - DHS/Choate Developmental Center - Jim Livesay made a motion to approve the draft report with revisions; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9010 - Coleman Tri-County DT Services - Jim Livesay made a motion to approve the revised report; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9011 - Chester Mental Health Center - Jim Livesay made a motion to approve the draft report; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9012 - Chester Mental Health Center - Jim Livesay made a motion to approve the draft report pending final review by HRA administrator, Jon Burnet; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9014 - Chester Mental Health Center - Jim Livesay made a motion to approve the draft report; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9022 - Colonial Manor - Jim Livesay made a motion to approve the draft report pending final review by HRA Administrator, Jon Burnet; the motion was seconded and carried.

Case Closures

11-110-9047 - Chester Mental Health Center - A response was received and approved. Jim Livesay made a motion to close the case making the findings part of the public record; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9005 - Chester Mental Health Center - A response was received and approved. Jim Livesay made a motion to close the case making the findings part of the public record; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9006 - Chester Mental Health Center - A response was received and approved. Jim Livesay made a motion to close the case making the findings part of the public record; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9007 - Chester Mental Health Center - A response was received and approved. Jim Livesay made a motion to close the case making the findings a part of the public record; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9008 - Saline Care Center - No response was received and none was required. Jim Livesay made a motion to close the case making the findings a part of the public record; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-110-9013 - Chester Mental Health Center - A response was received and approved. Jim Livesay made a motion to close the case making the findings a part of the public record; the motion was seconded and carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 24, 2012 at the Guardianship and Advocacy Commission office in Anna.

Sharon Mumford made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.; the motion was seconded and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Teresa Parks, Secretary Pro-Temp

